



Community

Are You StormReady?



**Contact your
National Weather Service
or
Emergency Management Office**

**Safety information at
www.nws.noaa.gov/stormready**





What is StormReady?

- **StormReady focuses on improving communication and preparedness in communities.**
- **StormReady prepares communities for all severe weather – from tornadoes to tsunamis.**
- **StormReady provides communities with detailed and clear guidance to improve their warning and preparedness programs.**



Every year Americans lose their lives

StormReady

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

- Because they didn't hear or heed the warning.



Natural Disaster Survey Report

StormReady

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

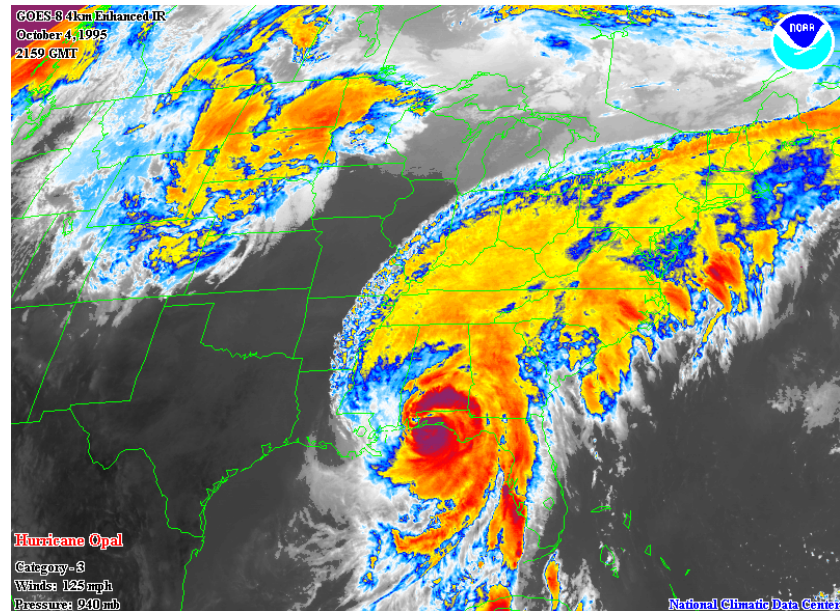
- **Palm Sunday Tornado Outbreak - 1994**
- **The Goshen United Methodist church did not receive the NWS tornado warning.**





Service Assessment Hurricane Opal - 1995

- ...many emergency management officials have no real-time access to NWS warnings.





Service Assessment Oklahoma/Southern Kansas May 3, 1999

- Despite large lead times, lives were lost because correct safety precautions were not taken.
- This family has put themselves in harms way.



Credit: Associated Press



How Does a Community Become StormReady

- 1. Establish Communication and Coordination**
 - a. 24 Hour Warning Point**
 - b. Emergency Operations Center**
- 2. Receive critical warning information**
 - a. NOAA Weather Radio**
 - b. NOAA Weather Wire**
 - c. Emergency Managers Weather Information Network**
 - d. News Media**
 - e. Pagers...**





How Does a Community Become StormReady?

3. Monitor evolving weather
 - a. Weather instruments
 - b. River gage monitoring
 - c. Radar access (NWS, local, internet)
4. Disseminate warnings
 - a. Cable override
 - b. NOAA Weather Radio in public buildings
 - b. Sirens
 - c. Other systems unique to the area





How Does a Community Become StormReady?

- 5. Increase preparedness**
 - a. Spotter and dispatcher training**
 - b. Public safety presentations**
- 6. Enhance internal procedures**
 - a. Review of hazardous weather action plan**





Recognition Process

- **Community applies in writing**
- **Local board reviews**
- **Local board performs verification visit**
- **Press conference/recognition**





Additional Information

- **StormReady recognition is for 2 years. Community must renew to remain StormReady**
- **Insurance Services Organization grants StormReady communities rating points...potentially reducing flood insurance rates**





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